HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Majority Caucus

309 Cannon House Office Building www.budget.house.gov (202) 226-7270

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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation scheduled for the House floor

24 September 2001

Week of 24 September 2001

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the establishment of National Character Counts Week (H. Con. Res. 204).



This resolution has no budgetary implications.

2) Lee H. Hamilton Federal Building and United States Courthouse Designation Act (H.R. 1583).



This bill has no budgetary implications.

3) To reauthorize the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes (H.R. 1860).



This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenue.

4) A bill to amend the Admiral James W. Nance and Meg Donovan Foreign Relations – an authorization act, for fiscal years 2000 and 2001, to adjust a condition on the payment of arrearages to the United Nations that sets the maximum share of any United Nations peacekeeping operation's budget that may be assessed of any country (S. 248).

This bill eases a restriction on the release of previously appropriated arrearage payments to the United Nations [UN]. Under current law, these funds may not be released until the UN reduces the peacekeeping assessment rate on the United States to 25 percent. This bill allows the funds to be released if the assessment rate is reduced to only 28.1 percent. Because the UN already has agreed to this rate, the bill would effectively allow the U.S. to immediately obligate these funds.

The fiscal year 2002 budget resolution accommodated the increase in outlays caused by this bill, but assumed it be enacted as part of an appropriations bill. The report accompanying the fiscal year 2002 budget resolution (H.Rept. 107-60), however, authorized the Budget Committee to make any necessary adjustments in the 302(a) allocations if the change in assessment rate was enacted as part of an authorization bill.

5) Senior Housing Commission Extension Act of 2001 (H.R. 1850).



This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenue.

6) Office of Multifamily Housing Assistance Restructuring Act of 2001 (H.R. 2589). This bill will reduce direct spending by \$307 million over the 2002-2006 period, and the



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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to express support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems.

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same amount over the 2002-2011 period. It is therefore consistent with the budget resolution and would not be subject to points of order under the Congressional Budget Act. In addition, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill will reduce discretionary spending by \$114 million over the 2002-2006 period if future appropriations are reduced to reflect the lower costs of section 8 contracts.

7) Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (H.R. 2869). This bill provides certain relief for small businesses from liability under the Comprehension Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 [CERCLA]. It does not currently have a Congressional Budget Office [CBO] estimate. Additionally, it is expected to result in an increase in the issuance of tax-exempt bonds, thereby reducing revenue by \$24 million over 5 years. Nevertheless, it would not cause revenue collected by the Treasury to be lower than that provided for in the budget resolution. Any decrease in offsetting receipts from this bill resulting from changes in liability law is highly speculative, but within the amounts permitted by the budget resolution.

8) Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Childhood Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2001 (H.R. 717).



This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenue.

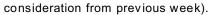
LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER UNANIMOUS CONSENT

1) Making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2002.

This bill makes continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2002, and will expire on 16 October 2001. It allows the Government to continue to operate at the current rate of spending until regular appropriations can be enacted. Because this bill has not been reported from any committee and is instead being brought directly to the floor, Budget Act points of order do not apply. According to preliminary Budget Committee analysis, this bill, were it to be extended for the entire year, would exceed the Appropriations Committee's allocation.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

Bill: National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (H.R. 2586) (continue



Committee: Armed Services

Summary: This bill authorizes appropriations of \$343 billion for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of

Defense and the Department of Energy. It indicates the appropriate numbers for active duty and reserve personnel. The bill reduces direct spending by technical restructuring of

the Tricare for Life Program, and through the sale of Government assets.

H.R. 2586 saves a net total of \$384 million during the period of fiscal years 2002-2006, and \$355 million during the period of fiscal years 2002-2011. That savings reflects receipts from asset sales of \$44 million over the next 5 years, and \$20 million over 10 years. These receipts are treated as a credit against budget authority, and hence

identified as a net reduction in spending.

Budget Act: Because the bill causes a reduction in direct spending in the first fiscal year and over the

5-year period, it is within the appropriate spending levels established by the fiscal year 2002 budget resolution. The bill causes several technical violations of the Budget Act related to the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee and new contract authority. The violations are inconsequential, however, and the Budget Committee Chairman will not

object to the necessary waivers.

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Bill: District of Columbia Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2002.

Committee: Appropriations

Summary: This bill provides appropriations for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2002. The

Appropriations Committee had not released the CBO estimate of this bill as of the

preparation of this Budget Week summary.

Budget Act: Because the CBO estimate is not available, it has not been determined whether this

appropriations bill is within its 302(b) allocation.